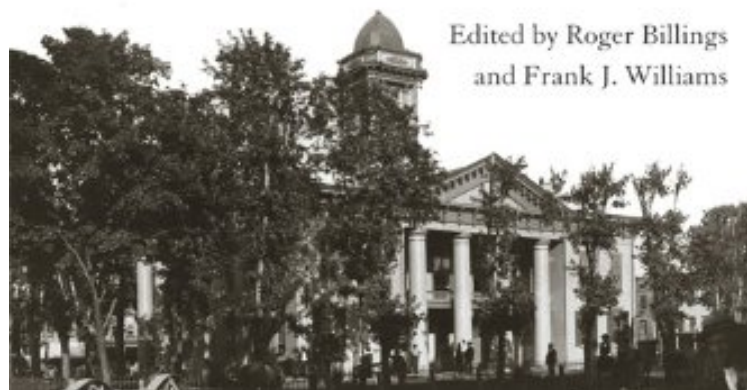
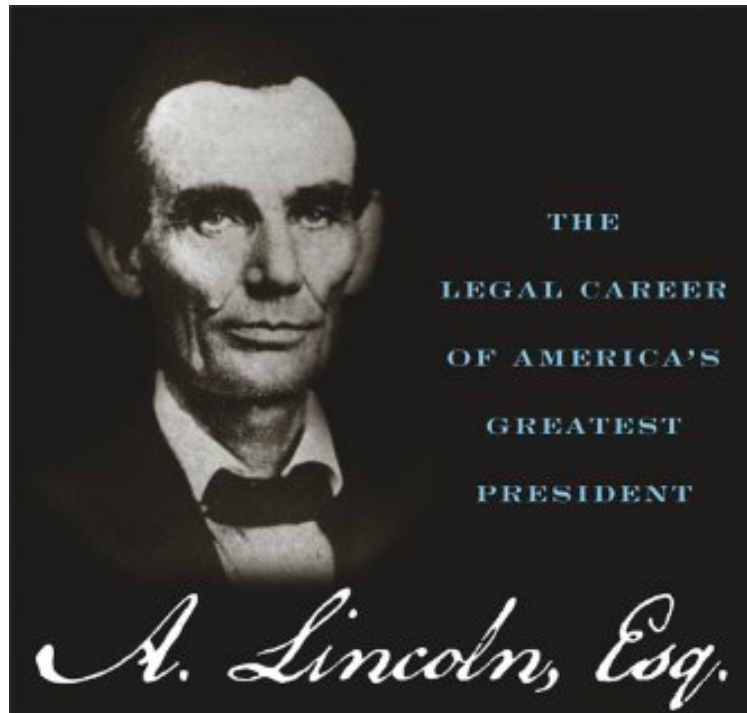


Abraham Lincoln, Esq.: The Legal Career of America's Greatest President

Roger Billings, Frank J. Williams
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Edited by Roger Billings
and Frank J. Williams

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Roger Billings, Frank J. Williams : Abraham Lincoln, Esq.: The Legal Career of America's Greatest President before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Abraham Lincoln, Esq.: The Legal Career of America's Greatest President:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Lincoln as a Practicing Attorney and as President. By R. BULL The essays in the book are based on the legal papers of Abraham Lincoln which were not available until the year 2000. I

found the range of topics covered was extensive. The writers were thoughtful. Some areas were more interesting to me than others. Overall I thought the writing was appropriate for the material. I came away with a broadened idea of what Lincoln's practice was like and what he did as president. I'm not a lawyer but I am a Lincoln buff and I recommend this book very highly. 2 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Terrific Lincoln Book For Lawyers By E. Shirley Abraham Lincoln Esq. is as the title suggests, a book about Lincoln as a lawyer. It is a great read, interesting stories of his clients, colleagues, and courts at the time. Well researched and a veritable garden of great stories well told. Evan Honolulu, Hawaii 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Good Concept - Uneven Execution - Dirck and Steiner Books are Better Resources By Jim Schmidt I've read several books now about Lincoln's career as a lawyer and have found most of them to be well done and interesting - this group of essays was promising in its concept but uneven in its execution. It starts, unfortunately, with two very lackluster essays - one by Holzer, another by co-editor Williams - they are non-historical and hagiographic and add little to nothing in the way of scholarship. Fortunately, they are followed by two essays by Dirck and Steiner - their books on Lincoln as lawyer are exceptional - these are very good standalone essays, but I would refer you to the books instead. Co-editor Billings has three very interesting and good essays in the book - of the three, only the essay on "Lincoln as Mortgage Lawyer" falls short - it's just not long enough to fully develop the author's theme. The Ellis/Ellis essays on Lincoln and legal ethics is too long, half, rambling, and not terribly convincing. Lupton's essay on Lincoln's legal writing is very good. Schnell's essay on Lincoln's legal connections to Kentucky doesn't add much in the way of new scholarship and is mostly biographical sketches of principals that hailed from Kentucky. Owens' essay on Lincoln and Constitutional law was the outstanding contribution to this collection, in my opinion. The final essay - by Pederson - on international law did not offer much. I'm glad to add the book to my growing Lincoln collection, but I'd recommend first Dirck's and Steiner's books or look for the better of the individual essays, where many originally appeared in the legal history journals - Billings, especially.

As our nation's most beloved and recognizable president, Abraham Lincoln is best known for the Emancipation Proclamation and for guiding our country through the Civil War. But before he took the oath of office, Lincoln practiced law for nearly twenty-five years in the Illinois courts. *Abraham Lincoln, Esq.: The Legal Career of America's Greatest President* examines Lincoln's law practice and the effect it had on his presidency and the country. Editors Roger Billings and Frank J. Williams, along with a notable list of contributors, examine Lincoln's career as a general-practice attorney, looking both at his work in Illinois and at the time he spent in Washington. Each chapter offers an expansive look at Lincoln's legal mind and covers diverse topics such as Lincoln's legal writing, ethics, the Constitution, and international law. *Abraham Lincoln, Esq.* emphasizes this often overlooked period in Lincoln's career and sheds light on Lincoln's life before he became our sixteenth president.

"This collection cuts across nearly every aspect of law as experienced by Lincoln. No stone is left unturned whether dealing with the most mundane aspects of metes and bounds or the highly specialized laws of war. It contributes to an area of Lincoln studies that has been underserved by Lincoln scholars." Edward Steers Jr., author of *Blood on the Moon: The Assassination of Abraham Lincoln*

Roger Billings and Frank Williams, and their contributors eloquently and thoroughly explored the nuances of Lincoln's journey to national prominence, delving into history to present a multifaceted account of the experiences and lessons that define his stance on ethics, policy, and democracy.

Lone Star "This collection of essays evaluates Lincoln's career as a lawyer and how good he was in his practice." Oklahoman "Useful and important for a wide audience including Lincoln scholars, legal and constitutional historians, Civil War specialists, and general readers fascinated by Lincoln" Law and Politics Book "Abraham Lincoln, Esq. is extremely well-researched and informative. If you are looking for insights into Lincoln's legal career, this short book provides a wealth of information" Wisconsin Lawyer "Abraham Lincoln, Esq. is a fine addition to the literature on Lincoln as a lawyer, and its bibliographical references will be valuable for future study." Federal Lawyer "President Lincoln displayed a moral and intellectual integrity by his courageous opposition to the extension of slavery and to the Dred Scott ruling by the US Supreme Court." Christian News "This well-researched book promises to add more perspective to the life of perhaps the most famous person ever born in Kentucky." Kentucky Monthly "a testament to the enduring relevance of Lincoln to modern America and the world. This particular edited volume is the result of an incredible amount of archival digging." Ohio Valley History "Present[s] important studies of Lincoln and . . . worthy of close attention." H-Net "Abraham Lincoln, Esq. is a worthy addition to the bookshelf of anyone seeking to learn more about the law career of our sixteenth president." Register of the Kentucky Historical Society "Presents to us a different side of Lincoln than we normally see and how this side helped him grow into the man he was when he became president" Book Bargains and Previews "Plumbs the latest research on the least-understood aspect of the career of Abraham Lincoln." Historian "[Will] satisfy historians' unquenchable thirst for new knowledge about Lincoln." Journal of East Tennessee History About the Author Roger Billings is a professor at Northern Kentucky University's Salmon P. Chase College of Law. His articles have appeared in such publications as the ABA Journal, and Journal of Illinois History. He lives in Cincinnati, Ohio. Frank J. Williams is a retired Chief Justice of the Rhode Island Supreme Court,

founding Chair of The Lincoln Forum and Chair of the Rhode Island Civil War Sesquicentennial Commemoration Commission. He also served as Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of Military Commission review to hear appeals from those detained at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. He is the author of *Judging Lincoln* and the coeditor of *Lincoln Lessons: Reflections on America's Greatest Leader*. He lives in Hope Valley, Rhode Island.